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THAT recent special edition of the Houston Herald is receiving a lot of merited compliments.

BOSQUE CITIZEN: There are thousands of men in Texas saying but little about politics who would like to see Seth Shepard made governor.

SOMEBODY has sent Mrs. Harrison a neat blank-book with the request that she make a note in it of all the bright sayings of Baby McKee.

THE attorney-general of Ohio rules that because a woman is not a qualified voter she is, therefore, ineligible to hold the office of a notary public.

THE BANNER joins in with the late grand jury in congratulating the good people of Washington county on the material decrease of crime in our midst.

THE News-Post war is about over. The saddest incident of the little episode was the playing false and desertion of "Cousin Rienzi" by "Cousin Can."

JOHN WANAMAKER was afraid to come South himself, but like many another coward, hides behind his wife's petticoat, by sending her south with Mrs. Harrison.

FRANK LESLIE'S and Judge contemplate sending a newspaper exploring expedition to Alaska next summer. To prepare a place for the republican party, no doubt.

THE juveniles out at San Antonio must be a precocious set. A number of boy burglaries in that ancient city have recently developed, calculated to put professionals to the blush.

HON. BILL STERRETT, formerly editor of the Dallas Times-Herald, and at present Washington correspondent of the two Newses, is said to have taken a great fancy to bicycling.

WHO knows but that the investigation as to how the newspapers obtain their reports of the executive sessions of the United States senate will result in secret sessions being abolished.

BLAIR is growing crazier than ever in regard to his educational bill. He proposes to make it a personal matter and threatens to leave the republican party if the measure is defeated.

SINCE the democratic cyclones in municipal elections in New York and Iowa the straws continue to show which way the wind blows. The democrats have carried Sacramento, California.

THE Nacogdoches Chronicle says that Judge Jas. I. Perkins is likely to succeed Col. Martin in congress at the next election. What has Col. Martin done that he should be so soon shelved?

THE Hillsboro Reflector is a paper of spirit and is not slow to resent gratuitous flings. It says: "A Union Labor contemporary declares that those engaged in amassing colossal fortunes constitute the really dangerous class. This is an insult to the country newspaper men that cannot be resented in terms too emphatic."

NOT long ago the Dallas News offered a present of a fine revolving bookcase to the newspaper man who furnished it the most practical and original suggestion for improving the paper. The premium was won by Mr. Frank Gaston, of the Granbury News. The Hillsboro Reflector says that the Fort Worth Gazette ought to offer a prize for an original editorial idea.

ROGER Q. MILLS is the leading democratic representative now in congress, except J. G. Carlisle of course, and his elevation to the senate will be but the just reward of honest and merited statesmanship.—Bryan Pilot.

THE BANNER enters the field of prophecy and hereby takes snap judgment on the other papers by predicting that Hon. Roger Q. Mills will occupy a seat in the cabinet of the next president of the United States.

The grand old rep. party is in a bad way. Not only is the personal unpopularity of its leaders and of its chosen chief driving it to the demerit bow-wows, but it is fast being left without any ground upon which to stand. A state of things which has been for the past few years rapidly approaching a climax is now near fulfillment. The campaign of education on the tariff issue has progressed to such an extent and is taking in so many converts from the republican side of the house in its broad sweep, that the republican party is beginning to feel that it is standing on sinking ground, or is on a sinking ship, and like rats must soon desert the vessel, else all hands be drowned. Senator Allison, of Iowa, and Senator Aldrich, of Rhode Island, have already cut the bridges behind them on the tariff issue and have taken a broad position and advanced ground. The indications are growing stronger that the republican party will be compelled to revise its position and to change front on the tariff, and as an offset and in order to prevent themselves from losing prestige, symptoms have already developed of a desperate effort that will be made to revive the bloody-shirt issue to make it serve as ground on which to stand. In all its efforts, however, to revive the bloody shirt the g. o. p. will simply gnaw a file. The people of the country are growing tired and disgusted at the cant, fraud and deception of the party of hypocritical pretensions, which has never a word to say nor a syllable of protest to utter against the brutal outrages against colored people in the North, but which sets up a jacked cry and a hypocritical howl every time a little race disturbance occurs in this section—all for the sake of making political capital. And not only have the people of the country dropped out to the methods of the g. o. p., but, as Senator Butler, of South Carolina, remarked the other day in reply to "Honest" John Sherman, who still claims to have a great love and solicitude for the "nigger," notwithstanding that he accused Alger of buying up his pledged "nigger" votes from the South in the last national republican convention, whenever the Old Bill Chancellors, Sherms and Hoars and Jayhawkers Ingalls attempt to carry out their threat of another crusade upon the south through supervisors and United States marshals for the purpose of dominating elections they will have a raking fire in the rear from the men of the North who have carried their millions of money and their interests into this section since the days of reconstruction. To the g. o. p. well may be it said, "cease vipers, you gnaw a file."

THE BLOODY SHIRT ONCE MORE.

The proceedings of the United States senate, as reported in the associated press, have begun again to have a familiar ring about them suggestive of the dark days of reconstruction and of the bloody shirt regime. The bloody shirt ranters and demagogues of late have not quite treated the country to daily diatribes on this favorite issue with them, but they are gradually approaching the good old times and will get there soon. The names of Grandma Hoar, the sainted old granny from Massachusetts, and old Bill Chandler, who is chiefly noted next to his bloody-shirt record for having the smallest head of any man in congress, are now frequently to be seen figuring in the reports of the doings of congress—almost if not quite every day. And they appear in the accustomed role of traducers, knaves and villainous, vituperative and reckless falsifiers of the South and of the Southern people. On last Thursday the sainted Hoar by some means or other got a vague idea of an obsolete law which had been passed somewhere in one of the southern states just after the war, punishing worthless white people who associated with negroes as vagrants. In the course of a diatribe against this section the old grand-dame with the recklessness usually characteristic of her, went off spasmodically half-cocked and charged that such a law existed on the statute books of Louisiana at present. The old Ananias with equal recklessness asserted that there was a law in Louisiana which provided for the sale of any colored man found for a certain time out of work and that the former master should have the preference in the purchase. These infamous falsehoods and wilful misstatements were unequivocally given the lie by Senator Eustis, but it will have no more effect in preventing these northern partisan traducers from going on and lying about the South than if no attention, whatever, was paid to them. "Honest" old John Sherman bobbed up serenely, too, in his seat and played the role of a hypocrite by pretending great concern for the colored people. He professed not to care a snap of his finger whether a colored man voted the democratic or republican ticket—just so he was permitted to vote and to have his vote counted. The hyenas and ghoulis and hypocrites of the North may howl as much as they please,

party may proclaim its sentiments of sectionalism, disunion, fanaticism, and hate till doomsday. All patriotic citizens of America must concede, that it would be a national blessing to bury the republican party, on account of its sectionalism, if for no other reason.

APPLICABLE TO TEXAS.

The court of General Sessions of Edgefield county, South Carolina, convened on the 3rd instant, and the grand jury was duly organized in the usual way and went to work. After completing its labors the grand jury adjourned, and in its final report to the court made one of the most severe and bitter arraignments and the most caustic attack on the court, of which it was a part, and of the court of last resort in the state on account of the failure of justice, that a grand jury was ever known to make. But while very bitter and caustic, we not only have no doubt that it was merited, but make bold to assert that it would have been to a large extent applicable to the laws and courts of Texas. Among other passages the report contained the following: "We find in our jail a prisoner indicted for murder, who has been there for the most part of four and a half years. He has been tried five times. The expense of keeping him and having these trials has been a heavy tax upon our county. The failure of the law to punish him, if guilty, reflects upon the administration of justice. The failure of the law to give him his freedom, if innocent, is an outrage upon the liberty of the citizen. The flimsy pretenses upon which the supreme court grants new trials, a thing unheard of before the war, an innovation which we firmly believe is the source of all lynching which has occurred in our state, cannot be too strongly condemned. The state suffers in the estimation of the world; the taxpayers suffer from the expense thereby entailed; civilization suffers because every lynching dethrones the law and holds it up to contempt." The report goes on to assert that the failure of the law to vindicate itself casts obloquy upon its administration, and that the granting of continuance after continuance upon the slightest pretext and pretense weakens justice. There can be no gain-saying of the fact that every word of the above is true, and that much of the blame of the farcical administration of justice and the travesty of it rests on the shoulders of the supreme court and court of appeals in their apparent eagerness to grant new trials on inadequate grounds. The reversal of the case of The State vs. Drake, for the brutal and cowardly murder of Prof. S. L. Guinn at Waco, because the indictment charged him with the murder of L. S. Guinn and the proof showed that it was S. L. Guinn is a case in point. There wasn't a shadow of a doubt in the mind of judge or jury or in the minds of the members of the supreme court or of the sheriff of the county, the clerk, jailor or anybody else immediately or remotely connected with the trial of the case or the carrying out of the judgment of the court, that S. L. Guinn and L. S. Guinn were one and the same individual. The ground for reversing the case on a frivolous technicality was wholly inadequate and made a mockery of justice.

BILLED FOR ANOTHER STAR ENGAGEMENT.

It is a notable fact that John Jayhawkers Ingalls, who was described some time back by a speaker as having followed in the rear of the army during the late unpleasantness and presided over chicken courts as a judge advocate to try poor devils for robbing poultry roosts, has the biggest gallery crowds to hear his harangues in the United States senate of all the members of that body. It is because he always manages to have his diatribes thoroughly advertised beforehand and resorts to all kinds of undignified tricks to drum up a crowd. That was the way he secured an audience on the occasion of his recent venomous attack against this section on the race question. And now he is billed for another star engagement. The New York Mail and Express, Elliott F. Shepards paper, presumably speaking by authority, announces that he is preparing a speech that will make a big sensation and cause the hair to stand on end, and adds:

Ever since his speech on the race question he has been bombarded with letters from the South. A number of them have been published, but he has kept a collection, which he is arranging to place before the country in a speech. The majority of these epistles are of the most outrageous character, and the threats and intimidations contained in them would be enough to frighten the average man, but Senator Ingalls is not a man to be bulldozed or browbeaten. He has also received a number of articles, which would make a small museum in themselves. These will also be exhibited, it is said, and will show what a United

obliged to stand from a certain class of people. Among the exhibits will be a cartridge and a letter from an indignant Southerner, who exclaims: "The next bullet you receive from me will be from a rifle." When the time comes the country will have a chance to read a mighty interesting speech from Senator Ingalls.

The Memphis Avalanche truly remarks that without such souvenirs and mementoes Ingalls would soon be dissolved in his own gall for lack of an opportunity to expend it on the South, and that in such cases the fool rarely fails to serve the knave. Regarding the investigation as to how the papers get their reports of the executive sessions of the senate, Senator Blackburn proposes to solve the whole question by abolishing entirely the press gallery. If in some way the press could be induced to refrain from publishing the utterances at least of such demagogues as Ingalls, which are meant for the ignorant and the groundlings, they could be effectually suppressed. The fool-killer would have as tough a job in the South as in any other section of the country.

THE SURPLUS PUZZLE.

The Washington Star, a republican paper, says that the question, what to do with the surplus in the national treasury, will soon be changed to what to do to get another surplus. If the Star had said that the latter question was what practically puzzled the g. o. p. at present it would have come nearer an exact statement of the case. It is true that the treasury has not yet become exhausted, but at the rate at which it is being looted and squandered an actual deficit is so near at hand that the contingency has been already anticipated and the republican party is racking its brain trying to arrive at some method or expedient by which it may get the funds in the treasury to hold out until it can redeem its party pledges to the Pretorian guard and other assailants and boddies with designs upon Uncle Sam's revenues. It is now pretty generally conceded that the Blair educational bill will fail to pass the senate. As it has passed this body at least two or three times heretofore, the most probable explanation of its failure to pass again is because it would make too big a drain on the treasury. As enormous as the surplus was, yet at the close of a single year of the present administration the threatened deficit is so apparent that already several schemes to raid the treasury will have to be abandoned. And as the Blair bill is only an expedient to get rid of the surplus, and as it can be got rid of quite as easy without this project, and as the Southern states would get most of the money, this is why the Blair bill will fail. Autocrat Reed and his majority have carried things with a high hand. The only object which they had in view in unseating democrats was to get a good working majority in order that they could not be balked in their raids on the national coffers. But now, that their hands are unfettered and they have free access, they are yet practically a long way from accomplishing their purposes, and the question now is how large will the deficit be in the treasury. The secretary of the treasury puts the revenues for the fiscal year at \$385,000,000, and the republican committee on appropriations says the expenditures will be \$442,099,110. This is said to be an exceedingly conservative estimate of expenditures. Speaker Carlisle enumerates a few of the heavier expenditures to which the republican party stands pledged, which includes the repeal of the law limiting arrearsages on pensions, involving \$471,000,000, the service pension bill, amounting to \$144,000,000, the pension for war prisoners, \$10,000,000, increased pensions for loss of legs or arms \$25,000,000, pensions to army nurses \$4,000,000, making in all an addition of \$704,000,000 to the \$100,000,000 already annually paid in the way of pensions. "Gone, but not forgotten," is the epitaph which the New York Star says the people will write at the congressional elections next fall in memory of the treasury surplus that was.

If courts would refuse to set aside just and honest verdicts because of flimsy technicalities there would be fewer crimes and fewer criminals. No one blames the shrewd lawyer for taking any advantages for his client, but the court should see to it that justice is administered according to the spirit and letter of the statute.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

Be it said to their credit, the lower courts are less responsible for crime than the high courts of last resort. In Texas it is the court of appeals which juggles with terms, makes sport of justice by following out the strict letter instead of the manifest intent and spirit of the law, however awkward and ridiculous the ruling may be.

Houston Post for showing a disposition to defame the Rev. Sam Jones, which the Dem. & Rep. says shows either a lamentable lack of information or of prejudice, and that the Post ought to be ashamed—especially since such citizens of Tyler as Hon. T. R. Bonner, W. S. Herndon and Judge Felix McCord united in pronouncing Sam a grand man. Probably the Post has never seen or heard the evangelist and only knows him by reputation. If so the Post should bear in mind that even his satanic majesty is said not to be quite so black as he has been painted.

For the benefit of any member of the association who may desire to attend the annual reunion of the Texas Veteran association at Fort Worth, which takes place April 20, if they will send their names and the station from which they will start (on the line of the Houston & Texas Central road and its branches) to Capt. Andrew Falkner, general passenger and ticket agent at Houston, he will send them complimentary round-trip tickets. Free transportation over the Central includes all veterans who served Texas in 1837 and prior to that time, and embraces also the wives and widows of veterans.

GROVER CLEVELAND is always saying something as full of wisdom as an egg is of meat. In an address recently in Chickering hall in the interest of the circulating library, he asserted that, a man or woman who never read and was abandoned to unthinking torpor, or who allowed the entire mental life to be bounded by the narrow lines of daily recurring routine of effort for mere existence, could not escape a condition of barrenness of mind which caused the decay of individual contentment and happiness.

THE Boston papers are making war on the hand-bill method of advertising, on the same ground presented by this paper several times. To scatter advertising dodgers broadcast litters the streets and endangers the lives of ladies driving in buggies, whose horses are apt to become frightened by the flying dodgers. It is nearly always the patent medicine, tramp and fakir classes who do this kind of advertising, and there ought to be a city ordinance against it, as there is in many cities and towns throughout the country.

THE New Orleans Times-Democrat is noted for being a very staid and conservative paper, hence it is a little bit surprising to see it assailing an old established institution in such manner as the following: "The jury system, as at present constituted and worked, is a survival from other days that should be abolished. It is not now, as it was for centuries, the 'paladium of personal liberty'. Its chief function now is to cause the administration of justice to miscarry."

THE United States senate committee threatens to proceed against the newspaper men for contempt in refusing to tell how they get their information of secret session doings. Contempt is good. The Chicago News says the scribes cannot very well help feeling contempt for a body of men who are capable of conducting such a farcical investigation as the one in progress.

WIGGINS, the Canadian weather fraud, is again to the front. A dispatch from Ottawa says he predicts tremendous storms, which will sweep over the globe. Their full force and fury, he says, will be felt in this country between the 21st and 22d—to-morrow and Saturday.

JUDGE GERALD, ex-postmaster at Waco, didn't meet with much encouragement in his recent diatribe against Senator Coke. The judge is old enough to have learned by this time that the public concerns itself very little about people's private grievances.

THE Victoria Review hoists the name of Hon. Wm. Henry Crain at its masthead as a candidate for reelection to congress. In this selection the Review shows better taste and judgment and leads a less forlorn hope than in its choice for governor.

THE sentiment in favor of the primary system in elections is growing. The Bryan Pilot says that the people of Brazos county are strongly in favor of it.

most historic characters in Texas, dating from the events leading to the late civil war. He was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, immigrated to the South early in youth and finally located in Texas. He was an eminent lawyer and for awhile graced the supreme court bench. While not an office-seeking politician, Judge Devine was a nestor in local democratic councils and was looked up to and beloved by the different factions within his own party. He was modest, retiring and unassuming, and while he could have proved a power in state politics, as he was not an official aspirant he contented himself with giving good advice to the members of his party at home.

WHILE sanitation as a general thing is good for a city, the Memphis Appeal truly remarks: "Many a city is retarded in its progress by being too healthy. A few largely-attended funerals are sometimes of infinite advantage." There are plenty of old mossbacks in every town of any size who not only refuse to contribute anything themselves to the good of the community in which they live but actually attempt to retard its progress by ridiculing the efforts of others. The best service such fellows could render their countrymen would be to go off and hang themselves. But as they are too mean for that, the next best thing would be for a cholera plague to carry them off.

THE question of deep water at Galveston—or in other words of an adequate appropriation to secure it—is nearer settlement than ever before, and it is now of little consequence whether Congressman Stewart opposes an undivided appropriation or not, or whether Aransas Pass, Sabine or any other point fights it. All of the large municipalities, boards of trade, county commissioners' courts &c of the western and northwestern states have begun to flood congress with memorials and petitions in favor of deep water at Galveston until it is a national and not a local matter.

ILLINOIS STATE REGISTER: There is a good deal of humbug and claptrap in the "old flag" business that is calculated to bring the stars and stripes into contempt, rather than to "inculcate patriotism in the rising generation." A flapping of bunting in the faces of the people will not do half as much toward the promotion of love of country as can be secured by the enactment of good, wholesome laws bearing equally on all classes of citizens, and the honest and economical conduct of public affairs.

WERE not this an election year it might be thought a little singular that simultaneously with the gathering of the cattlemen's convention at Fort Worth last week a great many politicians and office-seeking gentlemen were seen on the streets.

THE BANNER'S contemporaries almost without an exception are disposed to regard the report of the tremendous hailstorm in this county on the night of the 5th as a Mulhatten yarn. Pity they couldn't have been here to make a few wagers.

THE Cleburne Chronicle is no sentimentalist, but is simply possessed of a mass of good hard sense, in proof of which the Chronicle says: "The whipping post for wife-beaters is the best medicine before finally impounding them with the dogs."

THE present municipal campaign is believed to be the quietest ever known in Brenham. Only two weeks remain until the election and nobody has been mentioned for any office yet except the present incumbents.

THE Jim Williams murder case has been set for trial in the district court on the 28th.

MR. CLEM WEIBUSCH says that the prospects are fine for a good peach crop yet.

EASTER Sunday will fall on the 6th of April this year.

California can fruits at Galveston prices, less the freight at SLOAN & HODGE'S.

WANTED—An active man on Liberal Salary to permanently represent an Association incorporated to supply, at co-operative prices, general merchandise and all kinds of articles for home and family use, in each small city, town, village and rural district. \$5,000 members. Paid up Certificate \$100,000 in cash. Credit well rated. References exchanged. Empire Co-operative Association (Lock box 616) N. Y.